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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND
TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit: 2665
Examiner: Michael J. Molinari

15 B (USE)
ACE
9-16-03
my 2665

In Re: John K. Renwick et al.
Case: IBN-0014
Serial No.: 09/405,237
Filed: September 23, 1999
Subject: Apparatus and Method for Forwarding Data on Multiple Label-Switched
Data Paths

To the Commissioner of Patent and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

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SEP 05 2003

Technology Center 2600

Dear Sir:

Response B

In the claims:

All of the claims standing for examination are presented below. Claims 1, 9 and 10 are herein amended in the present response, claims 5, 6, 8, 11, 16, 17, 20, 22, 23 and 25 are herein cancelled.

1. (Currently Amended) A method of forwarding packets of data over a network from a source node to a destination node, comprising:

providing a subnetwork within the network having a label-switching network and a plurality of subnetwork nodes connected by a plurality of subnetwork links, the subnetwork nodes including an ingress node and an egress node coupled to the source node and the destination node, respectively, at least one pair of subnetwork nodes being connected by a plurality of subnetwork links, the plurality of subnetwork nodes and the